

~~Top Secret~~

POLAND: Food Supplies Improve

Food supplies in the Warsaw area have generally improved since prices increased on 1 February.

Supplies of meat are adequate to satisfy rationing requirements, and amounts of dairy products and vegetables seem to be in sufficient supply to meet consumer demand. Some food supplies have increased because many consumers cannot afford to pay higher prices. A kilogram of cheese, for example, now costs almost the daily average wage.

Comment: The regime apparently also is flooding the market with food in order to gain consumer acceptance for the increases. Adequate supplies of eggs, poultry, and many other foods, however, will not continue because of shortages and ineffective procurement from private farmers.

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